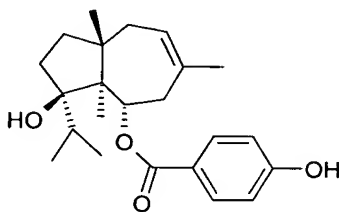


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

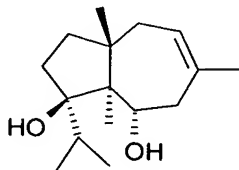
1. (original) A process for the preparation of ferutinine (Ia)



(Ia)

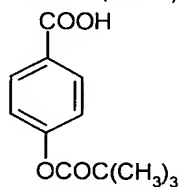
which comprises the following steps:

- a) extraction of daucane esters from *Ferula spp*;
 b) basic hydrolysis of daucane esters to give jaeschkenadiol (II)



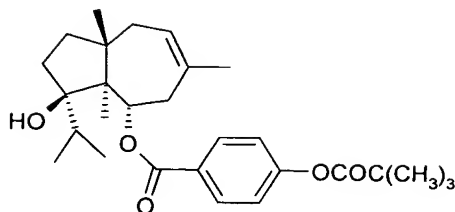
(II)

- c) esterification of jaeschkenadiol (II) with *p*-pivaloyloxybenzoic acid (III)



(III)

to give *p*-pivaloylferutinine (IV)



(IV)

- d) hydrolysis of *p*-pivaloylferutinine (IV) to ferutinine.
2. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula communis*.
 3. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula hermonis*.
 4. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-3~~ wherein daucane esters are extracted with supercritical carbon dioxide at temperatures ranging from 35 to 65°C and pressures ranging from 200 to 260 bar.
 5. (original) Process according to claim 4 wherein the temperature is 45°C.
 6. (currently amended) Process according to claim 4 [[or 5]] wherein the separation is carried out at temperatures ranging from 25 to 45°C and pressures ranging from 45 to 55 bar.
 7. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-6~~ wherein steps c) and d) are carried out in sequence without recovering compound (IV).
 8. (canceled)
 9. (canceled)
 10. (canceled)
 11. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition, which comprises adding an effective amount of *Ferula* spp extract to an acceptable excipient.
 12. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition, which comprises adding an effective amount of ferutinine to an acceptable excipient.

13. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition, which comprises adding an effective amount of *p*-pivaloyloxybenzoic to an acceptable excipient.